JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE

CHARLESTON DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS 1949 Industrial Park Road, Room 110 Conway, South Carolina 29526 and

THE S.C. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL
Office of Environmental Quality Control
Water Quality Certification and Wetlands Programs Section
2600 Bull Street
Columbia, South Carolina 29201

REGULATORY DIVISION Refer to: P/N #2005-1X-101-W 30 September 2005

Pursuant to Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 U.S.C. 403), Sections 401 and 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), the South Carolina Coastal Zone Management Act (48-39-10 et.seq.), and the S.C. Construction in Navigable Waters Permit Program (R. 19-450, et. seq., 1976 S.C. Code of Laws, as amended), an application has been submitted to the Department of the Army and the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control by

GEORGETOWN COUNTY c/o F&ME CONSULTANTS 1903 LEGION STREET MYRTLE BEACH, SOUTH CAROLINA 29577

for a permit to construct multi-lane boat ramps with courtesy docks, a pavilion/stage, and transient docks in waters of the

SAMPIT RIVER

at a location adjacent to and west of the U. S. Highway 17 Bridge, south of and along the Sampit River, in the Maryville Community, near the City of Georgetown, Georgetown County, South Carolina (Latitude 33.35651; Longitude 79.93833).

In order to give all interested parties an opportunity to express their views

NOTICE

is hereby given that written statements regarding the proposed work will be received by both of the above mentioned offices until

12 O'CLOCK NOON, MONDAY, 31 OCTOBER 2005

from those interested in the activity and whose interests may be affected by the proposed work.

According to the applicant, the proposed work consists of filling 0.44 acres of waters of the United States with 11,480 cubic yards of rip-rap fill on the existing river bottom and adjacent wetlands to a depth of 30' below mean high water. The applicant states that the rip-rap will displace 11,480 cubic yards of undesirable soils into the channel which will be removed by excavation dredging and disposed of at an upland site to be determined by Georgetown County. The applicant proposes to construct two 44' X 150' boat ramps on the rip rap base. The

REGULATORY DIVISION
Refer to: P/N #2005-1X-101-W

ramps will terminate approximately 75' from the centerline of the channel at a depth of -10.00 MSL and will be located approximately 300' west of the U.S. Highway 17 Bridge. Three 8'5" X 140' floating courtesy docks will be constructed parallel and adjacent to the ramps in order to provide access to watercraft. The courtesy docks will be anchored by 12" wood pilings. The applicant further proposes to demolish and remove the remaining bridge abutment and construct transient docks which will extend south beneath the existing U. S. Highway 17 Bridge, and be located landward of the existing SCDOT bridge pile protection structure. The transient docks will consist of an 8' X 42' fixed dock that will be constructed adjacent to the old bridge abutment. An 8' x 100' floating dock will extend perpendicular from the fixed dock to a location just north of the existing U.S. Highway 17 bridge pile protection structure. To that dock will be attached an 8' X 254' floating dock which will extend southeast under the U.S. Highway 17 Bridge. Attached to and perpendicular to the terminus of that dock will be an 8' X 110' floating dock that will extend just south of the existing U.S Highway 17 bridge pile protection structure. The applicant also proposes further wetland and wetland buffer impacts in order to construct a multi-level timber pavilion/stage to be supported on timber pilings in an area located southwest of the boat ramps. pavilion/stage will consist of an 80' X 60' main level with a 20' X 30' second level and will be accessible via a timber boardwalk. As mitigation for the proposed impacts to waters of the United States, the applicant proposes to preserve the remaining 2.41 acres of wetlands onsite along with 1.12 acres of upland buffers. The purpose of the project, according to the applicant, is to provide a facility with adequate parking and ramp capacity to support both occasional boat traffic and tournament fishing events.

NOTE: Plans depicting the work described in this notice are available and will be provided, upon receipt of a written request, to anyone that is interested in obtaining a copy of the plans for the specific project. The request must identify the project of interest by public notice number and a self-addressed stamped envelope must also be provided for mailing the drawings to you. Your request for drawings should be addressed to the

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ATTN: REGULATORY DIVISION 1949 Industrial Park Road, Room 110 Conway, South Carolina 29526

The District Engineer has concluded that the discharges associated with this project, both direct and indirect, should be reviewed by the South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control in accordance with provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. As such, this notice constitutes a request, on behalf of the applicant, for certification that this project will comply with applicable effluent limitations and water quality standards. The work shown on this application must also be certified as consistent with applicable provisions of the Coastal Zone Management Program (15 CFR 930). The District Engineer will not process this application to a conclusion until such certifications are received. This activity may also require evaluation for compliance with the S.C. Construction in Navigable Waters Permit Program. State review, permitting and certification is conducted by the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control. The applicant is hereby advised that supplemental information may be required by the State to facilitate the review. Persons wishing to comment or object to State certification or the navigable waters permit must submit all comments in writing to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control at the above address within thirty (30) days of the date of this notice.

This notice initiates the Essential Fish Habitat (EFH) consultation requirements of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. Implementation of the proposed project would impact (0.69) acres of estuarine substrates and emergent wetlands utilized by various life stages of species comprising the red drum, shrimp, and snapper-grouper management complexes. Our initial determination is that the proposed action would not have a substantial individual or cumulative adverse impact on EFH or fisheries managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries

REGULATORY DIVISION Refer to: P/N #2005-1X-101-W

Service (NMFS). Our final determination relative to project impacts and the need for mitigation measures is subject to review by and coordination with the NMFS.

The District Engineer has consulted the most recently available information and has determined that the project will have no effect on any Federally endangered, threatened, or proposed species and will not result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated or proposed critical habitat. This public notice serves as a request to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service for any additional information they may have on whether any listed or proposed endangered or threatened species or designated or proposed critical habitat may be present in the area which would be affected by the activity, pursuant to Section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended).

The District Engineer has consulted the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places for the presence or absence of registered properties, or properties listed as being eligible for inclusion therein, and this worksite is not included as a registered property or property listed as being eligible for inclusion in the Register. Consultation of the National Register constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Engineer, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. Presently unknown archaeological, scientific, prehistorical, or historical data may be lost or destroyed by the work to be accomplished under the requested permit.

Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for a public hearing shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the project must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the project will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be granted unless the District Engineer determines that it would be contrary to the public interest. In cases of conflicting property rights, the Corps of Engineers cannot undertake to adjudicate rival claims.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this project. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the activity.

If there are any questions concerning this public notice, please contact me at 843-365-4239

(V) Tommy Fennel

Project Manager

Regulatory Division

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

























